



A Comprehensive Pressure Ulcer Prevention Program
in Long Term and Sub-Acute Care:
Achieving Positive Outcomes

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Statement:

According to the guideline for prevention and management of pressure ulcers: *Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society* (2003), healthcare professionals should implement prevention programs that identify high risk individuals and implement preventive measures before ulcers begin.

Purpose:

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of a comprehensive pressure ulcer program in high risk populations including geriatrics, ventilator-dependent, and sub-acute patients.

Primary objectives:

Identify "at risk" patients, standardize skin and wound care protocols, and implement effective preventive measures.

Maintain a low sustainable pressure ulcers incidence rate

Standardize education programs to elevate the level of knowledge and consistency in communication among care providers across the continuum of care.

Method:

Taylor Care Center, a 300 bed extended-care, sub-acute care facility, utilized a multidisciplinary approach to skin and wound care. On admission, all patients were assessed for pressure ulcer risk. Patients deemed "high risk" were placed on the prevention protocol.

The prevention protocol includes the following measures:

- Daily skin inspection
- Daily dietary intake evaluation
- Weight observation program
- Lab analysis on admission and prn
- Use of pressure reduction surfaces and seat cushions
- Utilization of pressure reduction devices including heel/elbow protectors
- Turning and positioning schedule
- Patient education

Skin care protocol includes:

- Incontinence care: Personal Care Cleanser and Protective Ointment
- Dry skin: Moisturizing Cream
- Reddened/denuded skin: Personal Cleanser and Protective Paste
- Fungal/yeast infection: Personal Care Cleanser and Antifungal Protective Cream

Educational program protocol includes:

- Bi-yearly in-services for nurses: Prevention and Management of Pressure Ulcers
- On-going educational programs on skin management for update competencies for nurses and nursing-assistants.

OPTIONS®

On-going prevention programs for nursing-assistants PST
A full day conference on wound prevention and management every 2 years.

Outcomes/conclusion:

- Sustained low pressure ulcer incidence rate 1-3%
- Sustained skin care products cost-containment: \$0.46 per day to protect the "at risk" patient with incontinence
- Sustained education over time across the continuum of care

Actual costs of skin care products:

- Daily average patient census: 298 patients
- Daily average patient census w/incontinence: 209 patients
- Skin Care Protocols: Perineal cleanser, protective ointment, protective paste, antifungal cream, moisturizing cream
- Total cost per year for 5 skin care products: \$35,138
- Total cost per day: \$96.27
- Total cost per patient per day: \$0.46

Discussion: Cost to protect 209 patients with incontinence was \$96.27 per day regardless of the category of products used.

References:

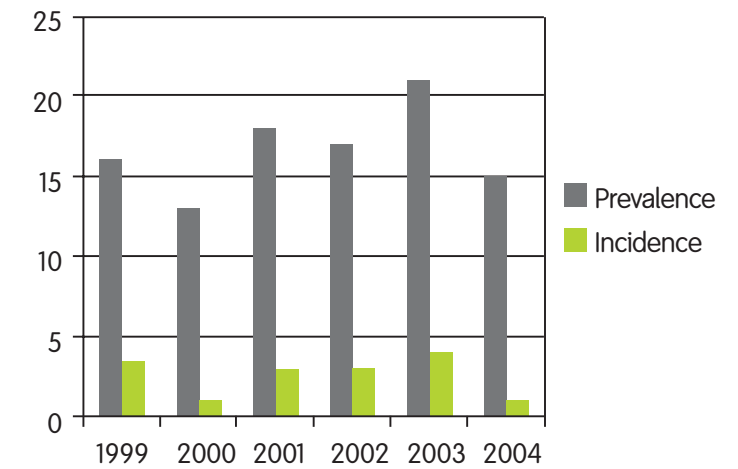
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- Options®, Smith & Nephew, Inc., Largo, Florida
- Products referenced in this poster:
- SECURA® Smith & Nephew, Inc., Largo, Florida
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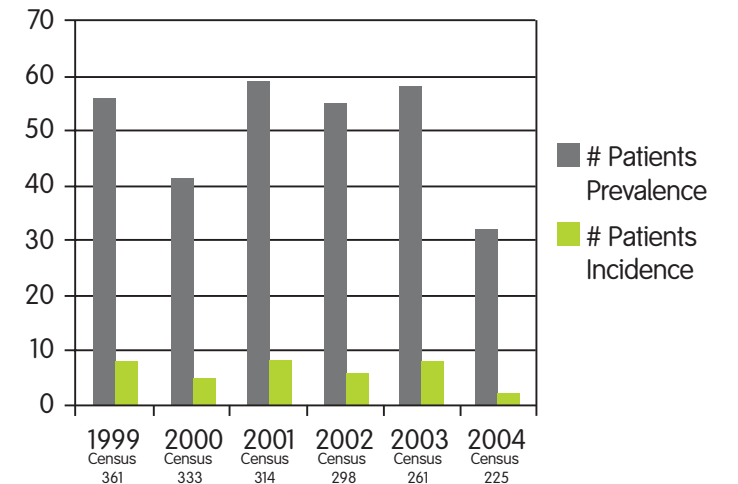
Results:

Taylor Care Center Pressure Ulcer Prevalence and Incidence Rates



Discussion: Taylor Care Facility evaluated its Pressure Ulcer Prevention Program by conducting annual prevalence and incidence studies along with monthly unit-bases quality improvement. Annual prevalence from 1999 through 2002 ranged from 16-18% and incidence remained low at 3%. The NPUAP (2001) revealed an incidence rate of 2.2% to 23% in Long Term Care. Taylor Care has consistently remained in the low end of the range for PU incidence: a direct result of ongoing implementation of a comprehensive prevention program.

Taylor Care Center Pressure Ulcer Prevalence Number of Patients



1999 - % Prevalence Patients Nosocomial was 54%
2004 - % Prevalence Patients Nosocomial decreased 17%



The Taylor Care Center Team

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